



COMMUNITY
Looking back on 46
years teaching, page 3



YOUTH
Fire safety poster
wins grant, page 8



LACROSSE
Early Longmeadow
lead too much, page 12

AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

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JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Collected stories



Eighth graders, from left, Lelanie Liporada, Geta Prenigi and Abby Sanchez show off their published books during a book-signing event last week at the AJHS library. They were among 306 8th graders who participated in an innovative writing project called the Future Authors Program that allows students to become published authors. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

No longer novel, Future Authors Program now also showcases poetry, short works

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Gianna Yacovone was 10 when her cousin Eric committed suicide. He had been bullied. He was just 14. His death made such a strong impression on Yacovone, now 13, that when the Agawam eighth

grader learned her class would write 24-page books, there was no doubt about her topic. "Right away I thought of Eric. I wanted to do something to help other people and to help stop bullying," she said at an event in the school library last week where students autographed printed copies of their books.

Her book, "Lost," includes a speech she wrote about bullying as well as two short stories and a poem on bullying. "It's very emotional. It's such a sad subject that everyone who reads it starts to cry." The project not only gave Yacovone the opportunity to write about bullying and her cousin's

death, but also to become a published author. For the third consecutive year, eighth graders at Agawam Junior High School participated in an innovative writing program known as the Future Authors Program. Books written by the school's

AUTHORS | page 11

GAMES AND LANES

'We're almost done'

End in sight for cleanup at eyesore on Walnut St. Ext.

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

Cleanup of the Games and Lanes site could be done as early as next spring, and the property could be on the market next week.

"We're at the 1 yard line. We're almost done," said David Peter of Site Redevelopment Technologies in an interview this week. "We are working as fast as we can to clean it."

Although the cleanup will likely last into 2017, it may be just a matter of days before SRT begins listing the property for sale. Peter said it will probably take time to find the right buyer, though "pos-



David Peter

CLEANUP | page 6

SOFTBALL

Agawam pounds Westfield to capture title

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

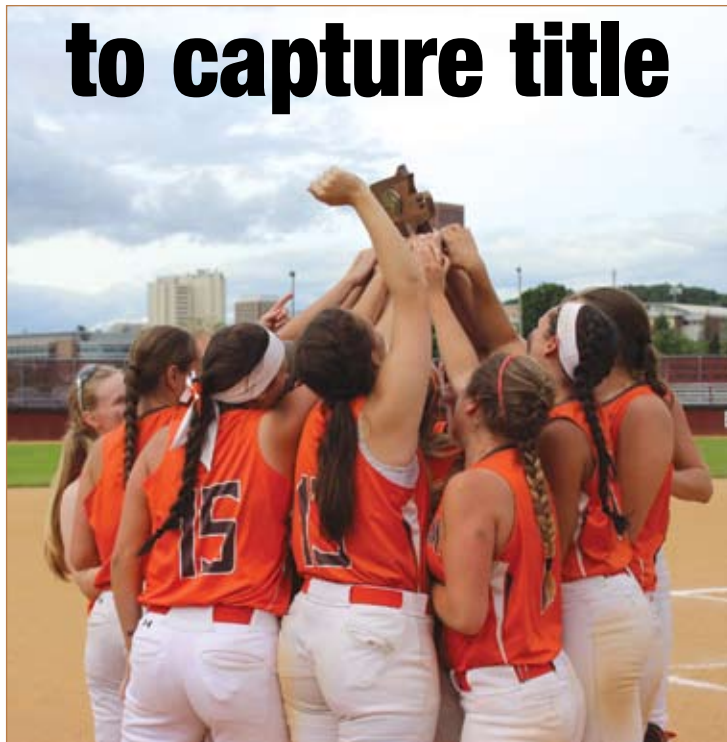
When Agawam High School softball has won the Western Massachusetts Division I championship, it has usually been a story about strong pitching.

But this time, it was the offense that prevailed as the Brownies won their fourth sectional title in five years, defeating Westfield in an 18-0 drubbing at Sortino Field on the campus of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

Agawam scored nine times in the first inning, five times in the second, and then four times in the fifth.

The Brownies would send 14 hitters to the plate, and kept the merry-go-round going with nine hits, and error, and a sacrifice fly helping plate the runs.

It started with Katie Grasso, who socked a single to center on



The Brownies celebrate their fourth title in five years. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

SOFTBALL | page 13

MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Greens back in black

Council weighing repayments, reinvestments amid steady profits at golf course this year

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

For the first time in the past few years, the Agawam Municipal Golf Course has money in retained earnings, and will use that money to help a hurting irrigation system if their funding transfer is approved by the Agawam City Council.

On Monday night, Golf Course General Manager Tony Roberto was among several department heads who gave a presentation about his proposed fiscal 2017 budget.

Roberto's budget figures come from the state Department of Revenue, which bases the amount the golf course can spend on the previous year's revenues. That number has risen this year. Roberto said he would be focusing some funds on additional pro

shop equipment.

Councilor Gina Letellier questioned the increased spending in supplies. Roberto said meeting the needs of the golfers is a big priority.

"We need to start carrying more equipment in our shop," said Roberto. "Our rounds are up since last year and we need tees and balls to meet the demands of our golfers."

The council will be asked to approve about \$44,000 for repairs to the golf course's irrigation system. Roberto said if the funds are approved, it will prevent a more expensive repair.

"We are trying to get this done now to prevent future issues that would end up costing thousands of dollars per green," said Roberto.

GOLF | page 7



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Adult summer reading kicks off Monday

The Agawam Public Library's 12th annual Adult Summer Reading Program, "On Your Mark, Get Set ... READ," kicks off June 20. Adult participants will enjoy a summer filled with reading, programs, fun and a raffle at the end of the summer.

Participants will read or listen to a book checked out on their own card from the Agawam Library and then fill out reviews slips to be dropped in the box at the "On Your Mark, Get Set ... READ!" showcase. Throughout the summer, review slips will be displayed in the showcase to see what others are reading. Completed review slips will be drawn in a raffle on Aug. 12 at 3 p.m. Prizes are valued at \$25. For every program participants attend this summer, they earn an extra raffle ticket. Participants can choose from the many programs listed below.

Monday, June 20: 6:30 p.m., annual meet-and-greet with local authors. This year, 11 authors will be featured at the Summer Reading kick-off event: Susan Bufam, Linda Cardillo, Tamara Fricke, Gerald McFarland, Bob McMaster, Matt Norris, Gail Olmstead, Tim Parker, Marcy Robitaille, V.C. Russell and Jacqueline Sheehan. Books will be available for sale and signing. Refreshments by Partner's Restaurant will

be served.

Thursday, June 23: 10 a.m., Introduction to Genealogy. Adult Services Librarian Cher Collins will present a basic introduction to genealogy research. Participants will have an opportunity get started on their family history, learn basic organizational strategies and how to use popular online resources, Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest. Participants are asked to call Adult Services directly to register at 413-789-1550, ext. 8851, or visit www.agawam-library.org.

Thursday, June 30: 7 p.m., New England Bike Trails. Local innkeeper, realtor and author Craig Della Penna has written a series of books on the conversion of old, unused railroad trails into bike and hike trails. He will discuss the location of rail trails and sustainable tourism in the Northeast. Craig and his wife, Kathleen, operate the Sugar Maple Trailside Inn in a restored Civil War-era house in Florence. The house sits eight feet from the region's earliest rail trail conversion.

Tuesday, July 5: 7 p.m., Health Information from A to Z. Medical librarian Margot Malachowski will discuss the latest information on seasonal allergies, Lyme disease, skin cancer and mosquito-borne illnesses

like EEE and the Zika virus. She will demonstrate how to research your own health questions, including the use of alternative medicine websites. There will be time for questions and answers.

Thursday, July 7: 10 a.m., Unearth More! Intermediate Genealogy. Participants will have an opportunity take their family research a little deeper and learn about the more advanced features of Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest. Adult Services Librarian Cher Collins will present enhanced strategies for research, organization, and record-keeping. Participants are asked to call Adult Services directly to register 413-789-1550, ext. 8851, or visit www.agawam-library.org.

Registration for the Adult Summer Reading Program began June 1. To sign up for events, call 413-789-1550, ext. 1550, or visit www.agawamlibrary.org.

On Your Mark, Get Set ... READ is sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association, the Boston Bruins, The Massachusetts Library System, the Agawam and Massachusetts Cultural Councils, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Collaborative Summer Library Program.

IN THIS ISSUE

Calendar	15
Legal ads	8
Youth	8
Sports	12
Public Safety	7
Opinion	4
Classifieds	16

20 PAGES

Correction

Because of a production error, several photo captions on page 13 were garbled in last week's Agawam Advertiser News. The entire photo gallery, featuring images from Agawam High School graduation, is reprinted in this week's newspaper on page 10.

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'Brief' career ends after 46 years in classroom

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Linda Ulrick's "brief" teaching career in Agawam is finally ending — after more than 46 years.

"I only intended to work for a few years, but financial needs and job security were primary. Also, I enjoyed what I was doing," said Ulrick, who winds up her career this week as a sixth grade teacher at Doering School.

A biology and chemistry major at Elms College, Ulrick became a scientist at Breck Shampoo in Springfield after her graduation in 1960. She left after four years for maternity leave, but needed to return to the workforce several years later.

She turned down two "dream positions" in the private sector to get additional credits she needed to teach.

"I had three pre-school age children, so my family's needs were my highest priority," recalled Ulrick, who said teaching allowed her to spend more time with her family.

Ulrick was 30 when she started teaching fifth grade at Robinson Park School in January 1970. She came to Doering when fifth graders moved to what was then called Agawam Middle School in the late 1980s. Although several of her college professors indicated teaching would be an "ideal career" for her, she credits her father as her major inspiration.

"He always told me that teaching was a wonderful profession. He wanted to become a teacher, but left school at a very young age to help support his family," she said.

"To this day, I feel he was quite intelligent, but never had any opportunity to receive a more formal education. He passed on his love of learning and inquisitiveness to me, for which I'm eternally grateful," added Ulrick. She's passed those traits on to her daughter, a kindergarten teacher in Portland, Conn.

Changing technology

The "biggest and most dramatic" change during her nearly half century of teaching has been in the area of technology, Ulrick said.

"When I first began teaching, all grades were averaged the old-fashioned 'math' way," she said. "I was overjoyed when I obtained a plug-in calculator."

Ulrick added that since she always had difficulty winding films onto the old film projectors, VCRs and classroom TVs were a "welcome improvement."



Linda Ulrick, pictured in her sixth grade science classroom at Doering School, is retiring this month after teaching in Agawam for more than 46 years. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

She said an increasing number of federal and state directives, such as several new curriculums and the recent Common Core standards, have created much more paperwork and responsibility for teachers.

"Not only are many forms and reports now required, there's also a great deal more testing and documentation," said Ulrick. "I won't miss all the paperwork — it's endless."

When Ulrick began teaching, security was not an issue at schools. Now, she said, classroom and school doors need to be locked at all times and ID badges must be worn by teachers.

"Moreover, there's a great deal of restriction and requirements," she said. "Everyone must have a CORI (Criminal Offender Record Information) check and there's constant concern about litigation."

Ulrick can recall when her pay was hand-delivered bi-weekly by the school superintendent and elementary teachers collected money from students for daily lunches as well as weekly banking.

She also remembers when there was a formal dress code, with strict requirements for women.

"Female teachers wore dresses and skirts that had to be an appropriate length. No slacks of any kind were allowed. And stockings were required in all types of weather."

Proud moments

One of Ulrick's proudest moments as a teacher occurred several years ago when a student received a state award for writing. "His father rented a limousine so we

could travel together to Boston for the ceremony," she said.

Ulrick served 10 years on the Grade 5 Science MCAS Test Development and Assessment Committee, which she said greatly enriched her background and benefited Agawam. Ulrick also helped to develop the science curriculum for the district.

At National Science Teacher Conventions, Ulrick met astronaut Alan Shepard, the first American in space, and Dr. Robert Ballard, an underwater ocean explorer who discovered the wreck of the Titanic.

Doering Principal Sue Federico called Ulrick — the longest-serving member of the school's science department — "a true professional" whose love of science and teaching will be sorely missed.

"Linda understands science in a way that makes it easy to teach concepts to our students and she enjoys doing experiments with our students," Federico said.

Ulrick, who celebrated her 77th birthday in April, said she's ready to retire.

"I'll miss my colleagues and some of the exciting events," she said. "What I'll miss most is working with children and observing their growth and progress. I especially get a 'high' when I see their excitement, enthusiasm, and pleasure about something that they've learned. I share in their pride."

During the winter she used to arise one or two times between 2 and 5 a.m. to brush away snow buildup on her station wagon so she would be ready to leave if school wasn't cancelled.

"It's an activity I definitely won't miss," said Ulrick, who plans to sell her house and move to her retirement home in Florida.

Retiring school staff honored for years of service

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

In addition to the retirement of Linda Ulrick, 17 other school department employees will be retiring at the end of June. Collectively, they have nearly 400 years of experience in Agawam's schools.

At the June 14 School Committee meeting, the following staff were honored:

Teachers: Patricia DiStefano, a psychologist in the Special Education Department, 12 years; Doris Early, a first grade teacher at Clark School, 30 years; Catherine Gomes, a health education teacher at the high school, 21 years; Lynn Goodrow, a fifth grade teacher at Doering School, 15 years; Robert Janik, a chemistry teacher at the high school, 20 years; Nancy Liberti, a first grade teacher at Phelps School, 14 years; Mary Kae MacDonald, a second grade teacher at Phelps School, 23 years; Leann McKeever, a Title I math teacher at Granger School, 35 years; Mary Murray, a physical education teacher at the high school, 22 years; Marcia Scherpa, an art teacher at the junior high school, 30 years; Jo-Ann Sullivan, a fourth grade teacher at Phelps School, 17 years; Sharon Vasicek, an art teacher at Phelps and Robinson Park schools, 14 years; William Zaengle, a technology education teacher at the high school, 29 years.

Administration: Ann Flynn, an IT specialist, 17 years; Cynthia Palazzi, principal at Robinson Park School, 25 years.

Paraprofessionals: Deborah Braccialarghe, a library/media assistant at Phelps School, 15 years; Karen Webster, a paraprofessional at Doering School, 11 years.

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Most of all, I want to thank all the loyal customers and friends
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for the past 61 years. Operating Letalien's has allowed me
to meet so many nice people and
it has been a pleasure to serve
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Opinion

OUR VIEW

At park this weekend, be sure to thank Friends

Robinson Park Day is back this Saturday, the perfect chance to say thanks to the folks who saved it — if you can pick them out from the crowd.

On the map, Robinson Park is a swath of green like any other state or city park, sandwiched between the black lines of Agawam town streets and the blue course of the Westfield River. In person, however, arborists and nature lovers describe it as a unique resource, the “Yellowstone of the East,” with an incredible diversity of tree species and several rare dragonflies, turtles and other creatures.

All of this in a location that’s easy to bike or walk to from many Agawam and Feeding Hills neighborhoods. Robinson State Park is a quick hike for residents of Western Massachusetts, an easy walk to commune with nature for its neighbors, even a cross-country course for Agawam High School runners.

It’s accessible to ordinary residents, and the movement to save Robinson Park — and the ongoing efforts to preserve and celebrate it — began with just a few ordinary Feeding Hills residents 10 years ago. When they discovered that the state was planning large-scale logging, essentially turning their suburban oasis into a tree farm, they organized a public meeting at the library and demanded answers from the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Though DCR initially said the logging plan was “a done deal,” the continued public pressure from the Friends eventually forced the state agency to remove only a limited number of “hazard” trees, and to reconsider its entire approach to forest management in urban and suburban parks.

Through their persistence, a small group of citizens from Agawam, Feeding Hills and Westfield may have saved not only their own beloved state park, but countless hundreds of trees — and habitats, and recreation areas — in state parks across the state.

Since then, the Friends of Robinson State Park have switched from convincing state officials to save their park to convincing their fellow citizens to enjoy their park. The Friends sponsor nature walks and educational activities for young and old alike, and donate their time and expertise to keep it perpetually beautiful and accessible.

The Agawam City Council recognized their work in proclaiming the first-ever Robinson Park Day in 2008. Some of the original Friends from the logging fight in 2006-2007 will be on hand this Saturday, including a couple leading walks and demonstrations. If you can pick them out from the crowd, say thanks.

But if you can’t, don’t worry. You can join or donate to the Friends. And just showing up at Robinson Park Day is enough to help them accomplish their mission of spreading the word about this natural resource. The Friends who saved this park 10 years ago were ordinary neighbors and they saved it for you — their ordinary neighbors.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.

Let us know

The Agawam Advertiser News, your community newspaper, welcomes letters, submissions, photographs and news tips from residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills.

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Our office is open Monday through Thursday mornings, and other weekday times by appointment.



Letters to the Editor

Veterans benefit from continual local support

The members of Wilson-Thompson American Legion Auxiliary Unit 185 would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued generosity and support. Without you we would not have been able to continue our mission of “Service Not Self” to our active military, veterans, their families and community.

Since Jan. 21, 1925, it has been our honor and privilege to serve through the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary.

With your support this year we were able to provide Christmas gifts to the veterans at the Holyoke Soldiers Home annual Christmas Gift Shop so that they could give their family members a wrapped Christmas gift free of charge.

We were also able to support our wounded soldiers through the Navy Safe Harbor Foundation, our homeless veterans received free laundry services through Project Suds, foster and safe harbor children received backpacks, suitcases and toiletries from Angels Take Flight in Agawam.

There is one program that helps our members at a time of natural disaster and we were able donate this year to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

Additionally, we had applications for the department annual scholarship awards.

From our homeless veterans to our veterans in the Holyoke Soldiers Home, to our wounded soldiers and foster and safe harbor children, you have made a difference.

For 91 years we have been blessed by your generosity and support and we want you to know how much you are appreciated and that “one person can make a difference,” and that person has been each of you.

We look forward to your continued support this coming year.

Mary Ellen Morissette
Unit President

Wilson-Thompson Auxiliary Unit 185,
Agawam

FAITH MATTERS

Repent and live

Ezekiel 18:32 reads as follows: “For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!”

Ancient Israel had forsaken their allegiance to the Lord God who had rescued them from the oppressive hand of slavery in Egypt and guided them into the land of Canaan. God had established a covenant with Abraham and reaffirmed it with his descendants, but the people were led astray into lifestyles of sin that broke the heart of their Sovereign Savior. Ezekiel was a prophet and spoke a very strong word of rebuke to the people for their errant behavior. It was a message of defeat at the hands of the Babylonian Empire and exile from their land.

God had a plan to prosper and bless the people of Israel but their hard-hearted, rebellious nature brought about the judgment of God. It is not a happy story. But when you read Chapter 18 of this prophetic book you find a ray of hope shimmering in the darkness. Each person who lives is responsible to stand before God and give an account for their life individually. The righteous father does not share in the guilt of the sinful son. And the righteous son of the sinful man does not bear the weight of punishment for his father. Every living soul belongs to the creator of heaven and earth who fashioned humanity from the dust of the earth and breathed life into him. I am not held accountable for the sins of my father, nor my children. We are not products

of evolutionary chance but hand-crafted by God for a purpose. Ezekiel, Chapter 18, reminds us that we must watch our life and actions closely because in the end we stand alone before God and His righteous judgment is the final word.

The chapter also gives us keen insight into the depth of God’s love for each person: “For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!” God wants you to experience abundant life in Him through Jesus Christ, who paid the penalty for the sin of humanity (your sin and my sin) by dying on a cross

and bearing the guilt and judgment meant for us. You and I deserve to die because we have sinned. Jesus lived a sinless life, sacrificed himself as an offering unto God, and rose from the dead, so that He could offer us the great gift of eternal life. If we acknowledge and repent of our sins, confess Jesus to be Lord of our life, and ask him to take control of our life, then our future is assured and we can have confidence when we stand before God and give an account for our life here on earth.

God is not angry with you. He loves you and wants to forgive all your sin. All you need to do is repent and turn to Him in humility and faith. “Repent and live.”

The Rev. Tim Reed is the executive pastor at Bethany Assembly of God on Main Street in Agawam.



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COUNCIL CORNER

How a budget is built

According to Rule 32 of the Agawam City Council Rules and Regulations, the full council shall review the proposed annual operating budget and Capital Improvement Plan budget for the town. As City Council president, I thought I would let you know the steps the City Council takes with respect to the operating budget.



James Cichetti

Education makes up 53 percent of Agawam's fiscal 2017 budget, and the City Council School Budget Subcommittee has met several times with the School Committee's Finance Committee to review this year's school budget. The School Committee's public hearing was held on April 26. The fiscal 2017 operating budget was received from the mayor's office on May 12. According to the charter, the council shall adopt the budget with or without any amendments within 45 days following the day the budget is received by it (therefore, June 25 is the final date for adoption). The City Council may delete or decrease any programs or amounts except expenditures required by law or for debt service. It shall not increase any amount in, or the total of, the proposed budget unless requested by the mayor.

The City Council has the budget in hard copy as well as on BoardPaq, their paperless agenda review system. On June 6 and June 13, the City Council requested through the mayor that the department heads present their individual budgets and be available for questions. The City Council will also hold a workshop on June 16 where they can review the budget again prior to the public hearing. Ideally, the majority of questions and concerns would be addressed at these individual presentations and prior to the actual public hearing on the fiscal 2017 operating budget, which will take place during the June 20 City Council meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. and is located in the auditorium of the Roberta G. Doering School. As always, these meetings are open to the public.

James Cichetti is president of the Agawam City Council.

JAY SPEAKS

Ali coverage recalls how we watched fights

Upon reading about the death of Muhammad Ali, and the subsequent TV, newspaper, and other media recalling the events of his life, it also brought along my memories of that time of life.

Professional boxing was a heavily promoted sport in the late 1930s, '40s, '50s and '60s. It was the era of Joe Louis, Max Schmelling, Maxie Baer. Following along came Leon Spinks and Rocky Marciano. Then, of course, the group including George Foreman and of course Muhammad Ali.

Newspapers, magazines, and TV, such as it was, and Movietone News, were loaded with daily details.

What boxers are signed on to fight for the championship? Where will they train? Who is the manager of each fighter? Where will the fight take place? When? What time? Will it be televised?

After these questions were answered came the information about the training camp for the boxers. Some of the fighters went to western New Jersey, to a place called Pompton Lakes. Other fighters went to upstate New York. From there, we received daily reports on the road work, what celebrities came to visit, who sparred with them, and we were treated to news about daily deliveries of hundreds of pounds of steaks and chops and other goodies for the boxers and their retinue of hangers-on.

A week before the actual fight they moved to the city. Usually it was New York. The fight would normally take place in Madison Square Garden, the same garden as today's basketball championships. The reporters were all over the fighters, their managers, and any one that they could get a story from. Each camp would tell the reporters how their guy was going to demolish his opponent!

The actual day before the match was the "weigh-in." That was a public event. We would find out how much they weighed, their reach (length of their arms), their height, and of course telling each opponent what they were going to do to the other in the ring. This made good copy for the press.

The day of the fight came and the TV cameras were placed so that we could

watch each fighter come down the aisle in their brightly colored robes and get into their corner with their corner man and their "cut man" (to treat gashes they might get in the course of a round). The referee would pull down the mike and an announcer would tell the world, "a heavyweight fight for the Championship of the World ... fifteen rounds and may the best man win!"

The referee would call the men into the center of the ring and tell them, "No below blows, no kidney punches, go to a neutral corner when there is a knockdown, make it a clear fight, go back to your corner."

Shortly after, the bell would ring for the first round.

Usually these fights took place on a Friday night. Gillette was the sponsor of the TV. On Friday night we would be at our Temple Sinai for Sabbath services. Our rabbi was Herman Snyder. Rabbi Snyder was a big fan of boxing. He had a wrist watch that had a quiet alarm. He would set the alarm for 9 p.m.

The fights would begin at 10 p.m. That would allow Rabbi Snyder to finish his sermon, conclude the service, have a cup of tea with congregants and get home for the opening bell.

In our family, a big fan of boxing was my mom's second husband. His favorite spot to watch the fights was on the edge of the bed. Over time, the bed would slope down like a ski jump. But he loved the fights and would not watch them anywhere but on the edge of the bed.

Now, championship boxing takes place in the casinos like Foxwoods, or in Las Vegas or Macao. Tickets are \$500 and up. To watch them on closed circuit TV is a minimum of \$75.

So we have to be happy with "Golden Gloves" or videos after the fights take place. Nevertheless, it is good to have fond memories.

Jay Berger is retired from a job in publishing and lives in Agawam with his wife Kitty. They have three children and six grandchildren.



Jay Berger

DEATH NOTICES

Kopyscinski, Richard R.
Died June 8
Funeral June 13
Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Martel, Nelson A. Sr.
Died June 12
Funeral June 17
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam

Agawam Advertiser News

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

SummerFest concerts to begin

The 2016 SummerFest Concert Series, sponsored by the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department, the Agawam Rotary Club and the Agawam Cultural Council, will begin July 6. The concerts will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays through Aug. 17 in the band shell at School Street Park, 418 Corey St., Agawam. Admission is free.

Scheduled performers are

Wednesday, July 6: Fred Eaglesmith

Wednesday, July 13: Rick Larrimore as Rod Stewart

Wednesday, July 20: Sugarfoot & the Brass Kickin' Horns

Wednesday, July 27: Hot Like Fire

Tuesday, Aug. 2: National Night Out featuring Corey & the Knightsmen

Wednesday, Aug. 10: Maxxtone

Wednesday, Aug. 17: Kix Country Night featuring Run-away June and LOCASH

The Aug. 2 performance will be held in conjunction with the town's annual National Night Out Celebration at School Street Park. This is a night for communities to stand together and promote awareness, safety and neighborhood Unity. National Night Out showcases the importance of police-community partnerships and citizen involvement in the fight for a safer nation.

In case of rain, the SummerFest concerts will be moved to the air-conditioned Agawam High School auditorium at 760 Cooper St., Agawam.

Class of '61 seeks classmates for reunion

The Agawam High School Class of 1961 will hold its 55-year reunion on Sept. 24 at Oak Ridge Country Club, 850 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills. The committee is trying to locate the following missing classmates in order to invite them to the reunion: James Belisle, Janice Call, Donna Davis, David Duffy, Linda (Taylor) Edelman, Thomas Guyton, Philip Headley, Marjorie (Sullivan) Labarre, Robert Pond, Harry Seel, Brenda (Fleming) Stilwell, David Taylor, Frances (Kopicinski) Taylor, Linda Varney and Edward Walker.

Anyone that knows the whereabouts of any of these individuals is asked to contact Mary (Haffler) Martin at mar2421@comcast.net or by phone at 413-789-2857.

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

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Agawam City Council agenda

Roberta G. Doering School
68 Main St
Monday, June 20
7 p.m.

- A. Roll call
- B. Moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Citizen's Speak Time
- D. Minutes
- 1. Regular Council Meeting – June 6, 2016
- E. Declaration from council president
- F. Presentation of Petitions and Resolutions
- 1. TR-2016-26- A Resolution requesting the Agawam City Council petition for the enactment of Special Municipal Legislation changing the process to fill a vacancy on the School Committee (Mayor Cohen with Councilors Bitzas, Cichetti, Theroux, Mineo and Calabrese) (Referred to Legislative Committee) (Tabled 6/6/16)
- 2. TR-2016-35 — A Resolution to authorize the use of voting machines pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 54 § 34 (Mayor and Councilor Theroux) (Referred to Finance Committee) (Tabled 6/6/16)
- 3. TR-2016-36 — A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a lease agreement between the Town of Agawam and Tanto Mane d/b/a Moolicious Farm (Mayor) (Referred to Finance Committee)
- 4. TR-2016-37 — A Resolution confirming the appointment of James Crosby, 9F Castle Hills, Agawam to the Agawam Municipal Golf Commission for a term expiring on Dec. 31, 2019 (Mayor)
- 5. TR-2016-38 — A Resolution confirming the appointment of Chris Quatrone, 12 Haskell St., Agawam to the Agawam Housing Committee to a term expiring May 31, 2018 (Mayor)
- 6. TR-2016-39 — A Resolution confirming the appointment of Sue Drumm, 14 Edward St., Agawam to the Agawam Housing Committee to a term expiring May 31, 2017 (Mayor)
- 7. TR-2016-40 — A Resolution accepting a grant in the amount of \$36,682.99 from the Ex-

- ecutive Office of Public Safety and Security State 911 Department to the City of Agawam Police Department for FY2016 State 911 Department Training Grant and EMD/Regulatory Compliance Grant Program (Mayor) (Referred to Finance Committee)
- 8. TR-2016-41 — A Resolution adopting the City of Agawam Local Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update 2016 (Mayor)
- 9. TR-2016-42 — A Resolution to amend TR-2016-13 and TR-2016-14 to appropriate additional funds from the Community Preservation Fund to meet the unforeseen shortfall of \$35,386.00 to complete the Wade and Borgatti Park Projects (CPA) (Referred to Finance Committee)
- 10. TR-2016-43 — A Resolution to appropriate \$43,151.10 from the Agawam Golf Course's Retained Earnings Account to fund repairs to obsolete irrigation system at the Agawam Golf Course (Mayor) (Referred to Finance and Ad Hoc Golf Committee)
- G. Report of council committees
- H. Elections
- I. Public hearings
- 1. (PH-2016-4) TR-2016-33 — A Resolution adopting the Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Operating Budget for the Town of Agawam – Public Hearing Date set for June 20, 2016) (Mayor) (Tabled 6/20/16)
- J. Old business
- 1. TO-2016-20 — Budgetary Transfer of \$50,000.00 from DPW Equipment Rental (#14202-52071) to DPW Street/Infrastructure Improvement Program (#16610-52460) (Mayor) (Referred to Finance Committee)
- 2. TO-2016-21 — Order granting or renewing a Junk Dealer's Permit for T's Jewelers, 559 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA (Clerk) (Referred to Administrative Committee)
- K. New business: Unavailable at press time.
- L. Any other matter that may legally come before the City Council.
- M. Adjournment.



Above: David Peter examines a groundwater testing well in the parking lot at Games and Lanes. Peter's company, Site Redevelopment Technologies, is preparing the site for reuse.

Right: The interior of Games and Lanes is a mess, but David Peter says the building is structurally sound and could be rehabilitated. Pictured is the bowling alley. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

CLEANUP ■ from page 1

sibly, somebody will want it right away.”

Peter purchased 346-350 Walnut Street Ext. last October, intending to clean it up and sell it to a developer. The property, a bowling alley and fun center in the 1990s, had extensive tetrachloroethylene contamination from drycleaning operations in its previous use as a uniform company.

The former owner, Manfred Tidor, spent \$1.5 million over the past 15 years to drill test wells on the 2.3 acre property, treat groundwater and dig out contaminated soil. Between his efforts and the natural dissipation of contaminants as nature takes its course, Games and Lanes needs just a little more data on the extent and severity of the contamination, and a little more remediation, before it can be certified by the state Department of Environmental Protection as clean for redevelopment.

“He spent over a million dollars to get it to where it is now,” said Peter. “I’ll be able to take it the rest of the way.”

The contamination — also known as perchloroethylene, or “perc” — followed the flow of groundwater northeast from the Games and Lanes property, Peter said. The southern end of the property is not contaminated, but other businesses, roughly on a direct line from Games and Lanes to the Morgan-Sullivan Bridge, are. Peter said it does not appear to have affected the Westfield River, which flows under the bridge.

Levels of contamination at neighboring parcels have dropped to the point where they are considered acceptable for commercial properties, Peter said.

Games and Lanes closed after a fire, then laid idle for 15 years. It’s been occupied by homeless people and trashed by vandals. But it’s still standing and, said Peter, still attractive to a new tenant looking for a 35,000-square foot space with no interior posts.

“Structurally, it’s still really strong,” said Peter. “Even though the roof has failed in some places, that’s just plywood. It’s still in amazingly good shape.”

He said if a new occupant wants to reuse

the existing structure, rather than building something new, it could represent a savings to them of up to \$10 million. For that reason, and because there are test wells indoors that need to remain accessible until the site is certified clean by DEP, Peter won’t tear down the building.

Marc Strange, the town planner, said “the best-case scenario is that a developer knocks the building down, which psychologically would be a huge win for the town, and builds a fresh building there, an anchor to draw people down there again, then the streetscape improvements can really take off.”

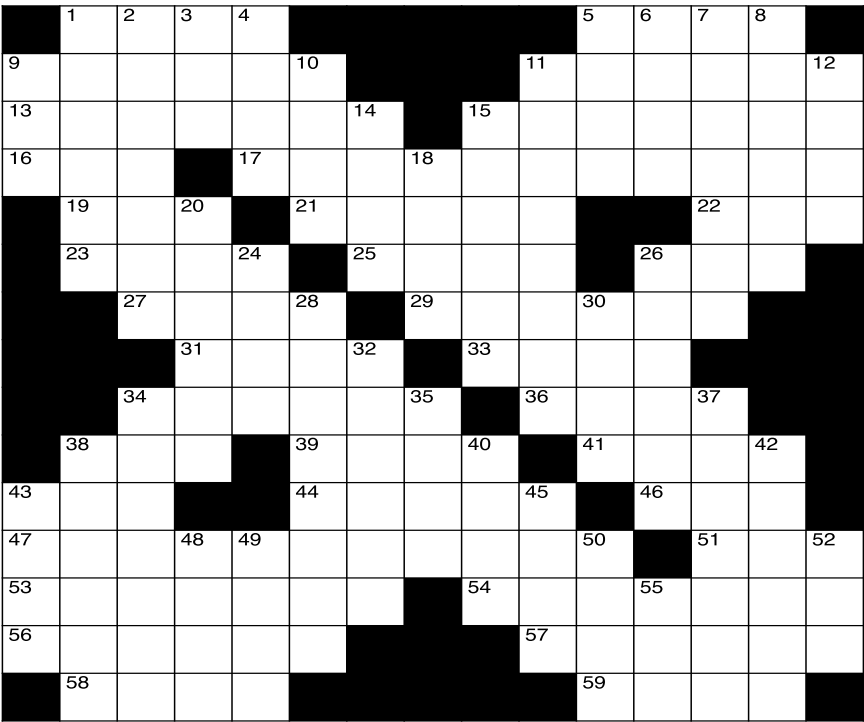
Peter said he is excited to see how the redevelopment of Games and Lanes will fit in to the new “walkable downtown” streetscape project being planned for Walnut Street Extension.

“You won’t recognize this neighborhood a year and a half from now,” he predicted.

The streetscape project will add wider sidewalks, bike lanes and on-street parking to replace the current strip-mall design of the two-block commercial area. In keeping with the “downtown” vision, the Games and Lanes property last year was rezoned for mixed-use development.

That new zoning does not include site plan review to ensure that the look and layout of the development are consistent with a small-business shopping district, but Strange noted that a demolition permit would require a site plan, and that town officials “are in constant communication with David, and we would be with anyone else who wants to develop that parcel, to make sure we’re all on the same page, as much as possible.”

Peter, who is based in Foxborough, founded Site Redevelopment Technologies after a career as an environmental remediation engineer for oil companies and in the Big Dig highway tunnel project in Boston. He said he looks at about 100 contaminated properties for every one that he takes on, and generally passes properties along to a developer after cleaning them up himself, though he is prepared to redevelop or subdivide Game and Lanes himself if no buyer emerges in the coming months.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Marvin __, journalist
- 5. Man
- 9. A fast gait of a horse
- 11. Streamlined
- 13. Rope fastener
- 15. They get you places
- 16. Ma
- 17. Filling sandwich
- 19. Move away from land
- 21. Sounds of boredom
- 22. Tax collector
- 23. Days (Spanish)
- 25. Predatory reptile (abbr.)
- 26. Hengyang Nanyue Airport
- 27. AJA camera

- 29. A computer language
- 31. Blare
- 33. Prevent from seeing
- 34. Long-haired dog
- 36. Turfs
- 38. Villain
- 39. At the peak
- 41. Macadamias are some
- 43. Chum
- 44. Not slender
- 46. Fido is one
- 47. Acidify with this
- 51. Before
- 53. Guided
- 54. Extended
- 56. Units of weight
- 57. Bedding
- 58. Greek portico
- 59. Descended

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Knocked out
- 2. Vessel that purifies
- 3. Bachelor of Laws
- 4. Loud noise
- 5. __ Sagan, astronomer
- 6. Mound
- 7. Coming to light
- 8. Extreme poverty
- 9. Jewel
- 10. Commoner
- 11. Disasters
- 12. Adult females
- 14. Mineral
- 15. Regards with disgust
- 18. Waterproofed canvas
- 20. Teased
- 24. Carbon particles
- 26. Delay

- 28. Luminaries
- 30. Boxing champ Spinks
- 32. A set of four
- 34. Most noticeable
- 35. He played Milton Waddams
- 37. __ Foster, composer
- 38. Succulent plant
- 40. Two
- 42. Run naked
- 43. El __, Texas town
- 45. Female deer (pl.)
- 48. Art __, around 1920
- 49. Compound
- 50. Breaks to sleep
- 52. Doctor of Education
- 55. Group of vineyards

'tis the season



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Public Safety

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 85 EMS calls from May 31 to June 6, and the following emergency response calls.

On May 31 at 9:07 a.m., the department responded to Leonard Street to assist invalid.

On May 31 at 10:18 a.m., the department responded to Pheasant Hill to assist invalid.

On May 31 at 12:27 p.m., the department responded to Castle Hills Road for gas leak (natural gas or LPG).

On June 1 at 7:49 a.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for extrication of victim(s) from vehicle.

On June 1 at 1:57 p.m., the department responded to Shoemaker Lane for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On June 1 at 3:23 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for cooking fire, confined to container.

On June 1 at 3:23 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On June 1 at 3:37 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for system malfunction, other.

On June 1 at 4:20 p.m., the department responded to Parkedge Drive for electrical wiring/equipment problem, other.

On June 2 at 3:07 a.m., the department responded to Beekman Drive to assist invalid.

On June 2 at 7:06 a.m., the department responded to S. Westfield Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On June 2 at 3:04 p.m., the department responded to Chestnut Lane for public service.

On June 2 at 3:23 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On June 2 at 3:23 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On June 2 at 3:23 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On June 3 at 1:41 p.m., the department responded to Leonard Street to assist invalid.

On June 3 at 3:36 p.m., the department responded to Meadow Street for false alarm or false call, other.

On June 3 at 4:31 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On June 3 at 8:06 p.m., the department responded to River Road for CO detector activation due to malfunction.

On June 4 at 2:23 p.m., the department responded to Leonard Street to assist invalid.

On June 5 at 9:05 a.m., the department responded to Leonard Street to assist invalid.

On June 6 at 3:23 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for cooking fire, confined to container.

On June 6 at 3:23 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 338 calls for service from June 6 to June 12. The department recorded two arrests in its public log. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Saturday, June 11

Nicholas A. Boucher, 23, of 1008 Main St., Agawam, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest.

Sunday, June 12

Winelia Martinez-Machuca, 38, of 117 Marble St., Apt. 48B, Springfield, was arrested on nine counts of receiving stolen property over \$250, and two counts of receiving a stolen credit card.

State grant will help pay for housing plan

State officials last week announced \$15,000 in grant funds for the town's Housing Production Plan.

"Affordable housing and economic development go hand in hand, and these funds will support Agawam's effort to create a strategic plan for future growth," said state Sen. Don Humason. "Thank you to the Baker-Polito Administration for partnering with municipalities and empowering local leaders to make local decisions in their communities."

Agawam was one of three communities to receive Planning Assistance Toward Housing grant awards this year. PATH, part of the state Department of Housing and Community Development, is a \$600,000 fund that helps communities expand housing opportunities through community-based activities on municipally-owned sites; changes to land use and zoning; planning for housing and mixed-use development in specific geographic areas; and the implementation of

strategies identified in DHCD-approved Housing Production Plans.

"These targeted investments in North Reading, Agawam and Danvers will allow for long-term planning with an eye towards our increasing housing needs across the commonwealth," said Gov. Charlie Baker. "Together, we can advance strategies that will support economic growth and housing development throughout Massachusetts that incorporates smart, efficient planning and local needs."

The fund, which was authorized in 2014, has awarded \$391,300 to-date, supporting multi-family housing development efforts in 19 communities. Over \$200,000 remains in the fund for future projects.

Grants are reviewed by a committee that includes MassHousing, the Massachusetts Housing Partnership, and MassDevelopment. DHCD accepts grant applications on a rolling basis.

Friends of Jaime Rivera to hold car wash

The Friends of Jaime S. Rivera will hold a car wash from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 18, at Sacred Heart Church, 1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Cost is \$5 per car. Rain date is June 25.

All proceeds from the car wash will be used to help fund the ninth annual Ben-

efit Car Show on July 24 at the Southwick Recreation Center, 64 Powder Mill Road in honor of Jaime S. Rivera. Rain date is July 31. Proceeds from the car show will benefit Shriners Hospital for Children.

For more information, visit www.friendsofjaimesrivera.com.

Senior Center to host estate finance seminar

The Agawam Senior Center will host an estate and financial protection seminar Wednesday, June 22, at 12:30 p.m. This educational seminar will be presented by Westfield Wealth Management & Insurance Group, in association with Westfield

Bank. Advance registration is recommended to ensure seating, as space is limited. To reserve a spot, call 413-821-0604.

The Senior Center is at 954 Main St., Agawam.

Family Center reaches 400 members

Andrew Melendez, executive director of the West of the River Family Center, announced this week that after two weeks as an independent organization, the fitness and community center has enrolled 400 members "and continues to grow daily."

"We are honored to have the support of the community and very excited to add more programs and services," Melendez said in a statement.

The center will host its first self-defense course this Saturday and plans summer

programs for children and adults to begin in a few weeks.

The West of the River Family Center opened June 1 at 63 Springfield St., Agawam, taking over the space occupied by the former Agawam YMCA. The new Family Center retained several YMCA programs and staff.

For more information, visit www.WestoftheRiver.org or download the WestoftheRiver smartphone app.



The cast of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" to be performed this month at the Red Door Theatre gather around the first collected edition of William Shakespeare's plays, collated and published in 1623, seven years after his death. Pictured with the cast is director Lyle Pearsons, far right. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Shakespeare cast visits rare book

AMHERST — The cast of the Red Door Theatre's production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" took a trip recently to view Shakespeare's First Folio, a collection of the Bard's plays on tour from Folger's Library in Washington, D.C.

The 400-year-old book was compiled in 1623 by two of Shakespeare's actor friends. It was recently on loan to the Mead Art Museum at Amherst College. The field trip was organized by director Lyle Pearsons as part of a team-building exercise for the cast, who will present an abridged 90-minute version of the popular comedy. It will be presented outside on the hill by the theater at 152 S. West-

field St., Feeding Hills.

The performances are free and run Friday and Saturday, June 24 and 25, at 6 p.m., and Sunday, June 26, at 2 p.m. The audience is encouraged to bring blankets, lawn chairs and a picnic to enjoy during the show.

The show is not recommended for small children and the playground will be off limits to allow the audience to enjoy the show. In case of rain, the show will be performed inside the theater for the first 110 people to arrive. For more information, visit www.reddoortheatre.com.

GOLF ■ from page 1

Roberto said the surplus funds from the golf course from fiscal 2015 have gone into its retained earnings account. About \$25,000 was transferred to the town's general fund to pay back taxpayers for funding golf carts and budget deficits during the past few years.

However, the course wanted to retain some of its earnings for situations like these. If the irrigation funds are approved, Roberto said there will be about \$41,000 remaining in the retained earnings account.

That amount could also increase as Roberto announced Monday night the golf course had met its \$552,000 budget target for fiscal 2016, the year that ends June 30.

"We actually did not have a great month in May," said Roberto. "We had nine rain days, as opposed to one last year" — but the course already was ahead of projections, after extending last year's golf season into a mild December and opening on March 12 this spring thanks to some cooperative weather.

The golf course will definitely finish in the black for fiscal 2016, and it is possible the Agawam City Council will seek to have more funds transferred back to the general fund.

While the course was in trouble,

the council agreed to spend \$265,000 on new golf carts, \$70,000 on a new lawnmower, and various smaller amounts to cover deficits in the budget. Letellier said she was happy to see the rounds at the course were up. Letellier was one of the councilors who criticized management while the course was in deep deficits.

"I'm glad to see things are going well there," she said. "Keep it up."

She also questioned the increase in spending for food service. Roberto said the expanded hours at the course during the past year will have the course doing "six figures" for food service in fiscal 2016.

Agawam Junior Women to meet June 21

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club will meet Tuesday, June 21, at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. A social hour with refreshments will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the program and business meeting at 7 p.m.

The meeting will include a brown bag auction in support of Operation Underground Railroad. Those in attendance will also enjoy an international dish. All are welcome.



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Youth

Student finishes 3rd in fire safety poster contest

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

David Baranov insists he isn't an artist, though the prize money says otherwise. Baranov, an eighth grader at Agawam Junior High School, recently placed third in the Massachusetts Fire Prevention Poster Contest. He said his colored pencil illustration of a book reading "Turn It Off, Blow It Out, Unplug It" was the first artwork he'd ever entered in a contest. "I kind of just had an idea," he said. "Somebody holding a book, because books lead to knowing. Powerful, yet simple message." That idea was good enough to win first place among entries from Hampden County, and finished third in the judging against other first- and second-place winners from 12 Massachusetts counties. The winners were announced June 2. Baranov's artwork will appear, along with other contest winners, on a 2017 calendar to be released in October. In addition to winning a couple hundred dollars for himself — Baranov says he will save or invest the money — third place also garnered \$1,000 for the Agawam Fire Department. The money which will be spent on fire safety education in Agawam

schools, said Firefighter Pamela Murphy, who organized Agawam's participation in the contest. Murphy said this is the seventh straight year that an Agawam student has won first or second place in Hampden County. She said she usually solicits entries from sixth-graders at Doering School and seventh- and eighth-grade art classrooms at the junior high, but this year, because of changes in the deadlines, she focused on junior high students only. To reach every student over a week-and-a-half span, she gave presentations in eight foreign language classes. Baranov was a student in Pamela Rivers' Spanish class. She said she enjoyed opening up the contest to students other than those who take art classes. "I told the kids, this is not just for artists," Murphy said. "This is for someone who has a great idea." There were about 285 entries from Agawam Junior High School this year. Murphy provided each entrant with a backpack, along with an additional 200 students who did not submit artwork but did write a fire-safety message. Baranov said he spent about two hours working on his poster. The hardest part, he said, was drawing lifelike hands.



Agawam Junior High School student David Baranov holds his fire safety poster with, from left, school Principal Norm Robbins, teacher Pamela Rivers and Firefighter Pamela Murphy. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

Three free KidsFest performances in July, Aug.

The 2016 KidsFest children's entertainment programs will begin Wednesday, July 13, and will continue July 27 and Aug. 10. Shows will be held at 11 a.m. on Veterans Green, 689 Main St., Agawam, in front of Phelps School. There is no charge to attend. Scheduled performers are:

- Wednesday, July 13, Jon O'Neil
- Wednesday, July 27, T-Bone
- Wednesday, Aug. 10, Jedlie's Magic Circus

In case of rain, the KidsFest shows will be moved indoors to the Phelps gymnasium. Additionally, the movie "Minions" will be shown at 8:15 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, on a 40 foot inflatable screen outdoors at School Street Park. Popcorn and refreshments will be available.



David Baranov's fire prevention poster won first place in Hampden County.

Legals

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
Probate & Family Court Dept.
HAMPDEN, Div.
HD15E0051PP
To **Anthony Cirillo** and **Danielle Marie Cirillo** as tenants-in-common in 1/2 interest and **Rita G Poggi**, Life Estate in 1/2 interest

held with **Anthony Cirillo** and **Danielle Marie Cirillo**, of Agawam, Massachusetts, in the County of Hampden, and to all other persons interested. A petition has been presented to said Court by **Mary Ann Poggi** and **Lynn Gioranino** as Trustees of the **Andrew D Poggi** Revocable Trust, of Southwick, in the

County of Hampden, representing that they hold as tenants in common an undivided part or share of land lying in Agawam, in the County of Hampden, setting forth that they desire that all of said land may be sold at private sale or public auction for not less than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$250,000.00) Dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof after full adjudication of the equitable claims contained in said petition and supplemental memorandum filed with the Court.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Springfield before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the fifth day of July 2016, the return day of this citation. Witness, ANNE M GEOFFRION, Esquire, First Justice of said Court, this twenty-third day of May, 2016. **Suzanne T. Seguin** Register of Probate & Family Court 6/2,6/9,6/16/16

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT

Probate & Family Court Dept.
HAMPDEN, Div.
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Seventy-Five Thousand (\$175,000.00) Dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof after full adjudication of the equitable claims contained in said petition and supplemental memorandum filed with the Court.

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third day of May, 2016. **Suzanne T. Seguin** Register of Probate & Family Court 6/2,6/9,6/16/16

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
LEGAL AD
The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, June 23, 2016 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Kuzmenko for property located at 69 Line Street. By Order of **Henry A. Kozloski**, Chairman Agawam Conservation Commission 6/16/16

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Turley Publications, Inc. (Palmer Plant) is accepting applications for an experienced **PRESS HELPER / JOGGER**, primarily first shift, but must be flexible to float to other shifts on an as needed basis.

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HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x235.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Youth

ICNE awards scholarship



Agawam High School senior, Alexis Kupiec was the recipient of a \$500 scholarship from the Insurance Center of New England. Kupiec will pursue a degree in nursing from Endicott College in the fall. The award was presented by MaryLynn Murray, vice president of commercial lines at Insurance Center of New England during the AHS Senior Awards Night on June 2. Insurance Center of New England is an independent insurance agency based in Agawam. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Juniors at AHS hear from area professionals

The annual Career Day for 11th-graders at Agawam High School took place Thursday, June 2. Over 22 business speakers from Agawam and surrounding communities participated in this event. Professionals ranging from doctors to sports management were on hand. These speakers gave two 40-minute presentations in the classroom setting. The students were surveyed prior to Career Day in order to determine their fields of interest and matched up accordingly.

Prior to the start of the classroom presentations, a reception was held for guests and speakers at the high school. Following the reception, Alan Rogers of the Education Committee of the West of the River Chamber of Commerce, which sponsored the

event, introduced to the students Mayor Richard Cohen, Superintendent of Schools William Sapelli and the keynote speaker, Dave Ratner of Dave's Pet Food City. Ratner gave an informative and inspirational speech to the students geared toward job search criteria.

Lisa Sheehan from the Career Center at AHS was instrumental in organizing the event and scheduling the students for the various classrooms.

This event, along with Career Day at Agawam Junior High School, is one of several initiatives put forth for education by the West of the River Chamber of Commerce Education Committee for the town of Agawam.

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Star on sidelines



On Tuesday, June 7, Radio Disney star Alex Angelo cheered on the senior in-town girls lacrosse team. One of the girls, Rachel Sills, won a Disney contest involving Angelo visiting with her and the team. Despite lightning ending the game early, he stayed to visit and take pictures with all the girls. SUBMITTED PHOTO

CAMPUS NOTES

Clarkson University: Raffaele Manzi, of Agawam, and Shayne Castonguay, of Feeding Hills, were named to the spring semester dean's list.

Fitchburg State University: Hayley B. Burbank, Benjamin Clinton and Ashley M. Jediny, of Feeding Hills, were named to the spring semester dean's list.

Springfield College: Sandra Babbitt, Aidan Pender, Michael Costello, Leah Dominique and Zackery Keene, of Agawam; and Amanda Ehresman, Christopher Rumpalik, Katrina Laz, Casey Keeley and Kali Thomas, of Feeding Hills, were named to the spring semester dean's list. Leah Domi-

nique and Fatoumata Samura, of Agawam; and Christina Vilkhovoy and Hannah Hellstein, of Feeding Hills, graduated at ceremonies held recently. Emily Doucette, Caitlin Frazier, Jyovani Joubert and Averett Bass of Agawam; and Jeremy Surreira and Kelly LeGrand, of Feeding Hills, were awarded master's degrees at ceremonies held recently.

University of Rhode Island: Rachel Beusee-Kauffman, Andrew Strong, Nicholas Hanchett and Anna Pellegrino, of Agawam; and Danielle Habrat, Benjamin Modzelesky and Teresa Graziano, of Feeding Hills, were named to the spring semester dean's list.

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GRADUATION 2016



Kyra Slocum and Travis Giroux enjoyed a few minutes together while waiting for graduation ceremonies to start.



Seniors pass by a portrait of the late Roberta Doering — a 46-year School Committee member who died in March — as they enter the stage at Symphony Hall to receive their diplomas. Doering had assisted in presenting diplomas at graduation for more than 40 years.



Jeremy Lungarini receives his diploma from Mayor Richard Cohen.



Symphony Hall was a sea of brown and white as the Class of 2016 waited to receive their diplomas.



Nick Mutti and Katie Daniels share a laugh just before graduation begins.



Alexus Porter and Liana Morrison are all set to graduate as they wait to march into Symphony Hall.

A production error garbled the text of the photo captions on page 13 of last week's Agawam Advertiser News, affecting six photos from Agawam High School's 2016 graduation. The photos and captions are reprinted on this page with a few other photos that didn't fit in last week's edition.



Victoria Nascembeni waves to family and friends as she waits for the Class of 2016 to be seated in Symphony Hall.



Seniors walk across the stage at Symphony Hall to receive their diplomas and congratulations from members of the school committee.



Seniors met up with classmates outside Symphony Hall and before going inside for graduation ceremonies.

AUTHORS ■ from page 1

306 eighth graders are published in traditional hardcover as well as a digital format by Bridgeport National Bindery, a company based in Agawam. Copies of the hardcover books — which will be catalogued with the Library of Congress — were displayed during a June 6 book-signing event at the school.

More than 900 students have participated in the author program since it was introduced to eighth graders in early 2014. Michele Brennan, vice president for marketing and communications at Bridgeport National Bindery, created the program and remains involved. Her company also continues to provide support.

Less stress this year

The 2014 and 2015 eighth grade classes all wrote 24-page books on one topic among five genres — fiction, nonfiction, memoir, poetry or graphic novel (fiction in comic book form). This year, students were also allowed to write a collection of stories throughout the school year instead of focusing on one long story.

“Teachers found this to be a great opportunity for students to try writing in several different classic major genres of literature,” said Brennan.

Stephanie Harris, one of the eighth grade English teachers involved with the project, said the change also helped to alleviate the stress of producing 24 pages worth of material.

“While the option to write one story was still provided, most students chose to produce a collection of creative writing, which included poetry, short stories, and a plethora of personal essays,” she said.

Added school Principal Norm Robbins, “It’s hard to sit down and write an entire novel on one subject. This flexibility really helped students and allowed them to select their own pieces of work they had done throughout the year.”

Emily Gillis said the project was a ‘good outlet’ for expressing herself during a stressful time at school because of relationship difficulties with some friends.

“I had so many strong emotions that had

built up and I could express myself easier by writing. It all comes out, so it’s a good outlet for me,” said the 13-year-old, who wrote two short stories and nine poems under the title “Tales of a Young Girl.”

In the process of writing her book, Gillis discovered she had a knack for writing poetry.

“I found out that my strong suit is poems,” she said. “I would just sit down and write them very quickly — and I could put a lot of emotion into writing poems.”

The rewarding feeling Gillis felt writing her poems was one of the reasons why the format was changed this year. Sarah Kempey, another eighth grade English teacher, said the revision to allow various types of work produced a more creative final product for the students.

“They seemed very happy with their finished books and liked the variety of writing included in them,” said Kempey. “Changing things up ultimately also made the whole project much less stressful for them.”

Tyler Adams is much older than his eighth grade classmates. The 16-year-old has reactive attachment disorder, which occurs in children who have been neglected and are unable to form a healthy emotional attachment with their primary caregivers. Adams said he wrote poems that helped him to deal with his anger about being abused during the first five years of his life.

“Some of my anger and other feelings mixed together when I wrote poems from memory. Others are just what I was feeling at the time I wrote them,” he said of his book, “Spoken Words.”

Adams said his poems started with a few words until he “felt the flow and just started writing.” He said he has no feelings yet about being a published author: “I’ll get a better sense of my accomplishment when I see the reviews of the book — then it will be more real for me.”

Completed books were uploaded to an electronic book tool provided by online publisher Lulu.com, which will sell the books for two years. All royalties from the sales go back into the program to make it self-funding.



Emily Gillis proudly holds “Tales of a Young Girl,” a collection of her short stories and poems, while standing with her parents, Melissa and Eric Gillis. The 13-year-old said the book-writing project was a ‘good outlet’ for expressing herself during a stressful time at school. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK



Gianna Yacovone, center, talks with her mother Tammie, left, and eighth grade English teacher Anita Quinn about her book, “Lost.”



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SPORTS

SOFTBALL

Wheeler double takes down Pittsfield in playoff rematch

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – It was a quick and easy return to the Western Massachusetts Division I final as the Agawam High School softball team needed just a four-run second inning to win a big rematch with Pittsfield High School last Wednesday afternoon.

Playing at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, the site of last year's 2-1 win for Agawam over Pittsfield in last year's sectional final.

Agawam was able to take advan-

tage of timely hitting and a key error in order to take a big lead early in the game. Playing against a team that had beaten them in the regular season, Agawam knew they were going to have to hit in order to get past the Generals.

Sierra Kruser, the Brownies' catcher, got the big hit right out of the gate. She socked a triple to the wall in right-center field. She would then come home quickly on a single by Jenna Beach to make it 1-0 Agawam.

Rachel Laponese would come up with Beach on first, and laid

SEMI | page 14



Sierra Kruser crosses the plate with the first Agawam run.



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS
BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI
Jess Lingenberg makes the throw to first.

LACROSSE

Lancers, lightning too much for Agawam in semifinal

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School girls lacrosse team has matched up with Longmeadow in the playoffs at some point almost every year.

Every year, Longmeadow has been getting the better of the Brownies, and 2016 was no different.

Despite a dominant 13-3 record this regular season, Longmeadow scored big in the first half, and weather helped the rest as the Lancers defeated Agawam 13-5 in the semifinals of the Western Massachusetts Division I Tournament last Tuesday evening in Longmeadow.

The game was actually called with about 6:47 remaining.

Twice, the game was stopped because lightning was in the area. In Longmeadow, when lightning comes within a close distance of the high school, a loud horn sounds warning people to clear the playing fields due to the threat.

After the second stoppage from lightning, the referees called the game with Longmeadow leading 13-5.



Julia Serra holds the ball behind the Longmeadow goal. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Christie Mirski looks for an open teammate.

LACROSSE | page 14

VOLLEYBALL

Brownies comeback falls short in semifinal loss to Central

By Nate Rosenthal
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM - The Agawam boys' volleyball program is synonymous with success. It was expected that the Brownies would once again be one of the elite teams in Western Mass. As the second seed in Division 1, they were taken on upstart Central for a trip to the finals. When they fell behind upstart Central in the Division 1 semifinals, that was a bit of a surprise, but then the winning tradition of the Brownies kicked in. They won the next two sets to force a fifth game tiebreaker. There they were unable to complete the deal and they lost to Central, 3-2. For the second year in a row, Agawam's season ended with a semifinal loss.

The upstart label is not meant to take anything away from Central, who finished the regular season with a 19-1 record, that loss coming in the finale to West Springfield. But the Golden Eagles did not qualify for the post-season last year or the year before or even the year before that. Since 2011, when the Brownies broke Chicopee Comp's three-

year stranglehold on Western Mass supremacy with a 21-0 season and a championship, they would win Western Mass in two of the next three years, including a state title in 2013. In those six years, 2011-2016, they would finish the regular season no lower than as the third seed. Going back even further, the Brownies were last team to win a Western Mass title before Comp, back in 2007. They remained a power in the Comp run. Central, never finished above .500 and thus did not qualify. To do as well as they did in 2016, was an amazing feat. That was the backdrop that the Brownies were involved with as they took on Central.

The match was a case of too much of Faruq Stokes and William Rivera. The two were major forces at the net, especially in the first two sets, when the Eagles took a 2-0 advantage. Stokes seemingly blocked everything in sight, while Rivera got high over the net to make some well-placed kills that the Brownies could not handle. Central led from almost the entire way in the first set, win-

VOLLEYBALL | page 14

Sports

SOFTBALL ■ from page 1

the ground. Allison Wheeler would reach on an error by the shortstop and then Maria Moccio singled home the first run.

With runners on second and third, Jess Lingenberg would send a double over the left fielder to plate another run. Gianna Perella kept things going with a single to center, scoring two runs to make it 4-0.

Catcher Sierra Kruser had a double to put runners on second and third, and Jenna Beach grounded to short for the first out of the inning. While it was the first out, it was still productive as a run came in to score. Beach was followed by Rachel Lappone, who singled to right. A run scored, and Lappone moved to third on an error.

Samantha Stratton then hit a blooper to second that she beat out, driving in the seventh run of the inning. Grasso returned to the plate and socked her second hit of the inning. Wheeler and Moccio also got singles, with Moccio's hit driving in a run. Lingenberg drove in her second run of the inning with a sacrifice fly, bringing in the ninth run.

The Brownies took advantage of three errors in the second to bring home five more runs. Beach would hit a bouncing ball to third that would get thrown away into right field. Beach continued on to second and attempted third. The ball was then thrown away again by the right fielder, allowing Beach to score. Moccio would have an RBI single and Lingenberg had a two-RBI single in that inning.



The 2016 Western Massachusetts Division I Champion Agawam Brownies. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

“The offense was definitely on,” said coach Kathy Georgina. “I knew after the first couple of innings that they could not get to us.”

Wheeler, who has been Agawam's reliable starting pitcher for the last four years and has won three Western Massachusetts Division I titles, was slightly overshadowed in this final.

But her performance was excellent. She limited the Bombers to just three baserun-

ners, allowing two hits and a walk. She was in control the entire game and the Agawam defense was flawless, showing excellent focus with such a big lead.

One other major positive for Agawam was the ability of Georgina to play everyone on the bench in the game. With a huge lead after five innings, Georgina inserted every member of the bench in some fashion.

“It was a great thing to be able to get everyone into the game in a situation like

this,” said Georgina. “Everyone got a chance to play.”

Agawam moved on to play Doherty High School, the Central Massachusetts champion, in the state semifinals. That game was scheduled for Wednesday night. If the Brownies win, they will go on to the state finals at Worcester State University on Saturday at a time to be announced.



Jenna Beach squeezes a catch on a fly ball.



Pitcher Allison Wheeler deals in the third inning.



Katie Grasso gets a lead off first base.



Samantha Stratton swings and makes contact.



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Sports

LACROSSE ■ from page 12

Longmeadow jumped out to an early lead in the game, going up 2-0 with two goals in about 20 seconds.

After a few minutes, Agawam would actually come back with a Christie Mirski tally at 18:09. But Longmeadow would go on another scoring tear, and lead 10-2 with time waning in the first half.

Jill Scherpa and Julia Serra managed tallies late in the first half, but Agawam still trailed 10-4 at the end of the first half.

The two teams struggled out of the gate to put together a rally to start the second half. Agawam actually had multiple chances to take some momentum, but failed to score on three occasions before Longmeadow put another goal on the board with 17 minutes remaining in the second half.

Agawam would get outscored 3-1 in the final frame before lightning ended the game.

Katie Martin would finish her high school career on this night. She had a goal and two assists and finished with 100 points for her senior season. She is headed for Old Dominion next fall to play lacrosse for a growing program.

Agawam had another excellent season as they dominated the majority of their competition throughout the season, only having their usual trouble with Longmeadow, which beat them for the third time this season in their semifinal match.

Agawam also lost one match against Minnechaug, which faced Longmeadow and lost in the finals held last Saturday night.

Agawam had a very impressive stretch late in the regular season, where they won eight straight matches heading into the playoffs. The Brownies then knocked off Northampton in the quarterfinals in overtime to reach the semis.



Jill Scherpa goes for a ground ball. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Taylor DeGeorge starts a run up the field.



Katie Martin attempts a shot on goal.

SEMI ■ from page 12

down what would have been a sacrifice bunt, but the speedy outfielder beat it out to put runners on first and second with no outs.

One out later, Katie Grasso hit a ground-er to second that was misplayed, and one run came in to score with two runners advancing to second and third.

Allison Wheeler, the Brownies pitcher and an excellent hitter for the last two seasons for Agawam, socked a double to deep left, bringing two more runs around to score to make it 4-0.

In the third inning, Agawam got a lead-off base hit from Gianna Perella, but a double play erased the hit, and Agawam's threat was stopped.

The teams had few baserunners throughout the middle innings. Pittsfield finally came through with a run in the bot-

tom of the sixth inning. Pittsfield took advantage of an error, a hit batter, and a single to load the bases. Another hit brought in a run, but Wheeler got the next hitter on a strikeout to end the threat.

Wheeler retired the side in order in the seventh to close out the game.

Wheeler was excellent in the outing. She worked out of minor jams during the game, with two runners reaching in the first, and one each in the second and third. She had perfect innings in the fourth, fifth, and seventh innings.

Wheeler also had the big offensive blow with a double and two RBI. Beach had a hit and drove in a run.

Pittsfield beat Agawam 2-1 during the regular season, which was viewed as a play-off preview when it was played in April.

VOLLEYBALL ■ from page 12

ning 25-21. Agawam led 3-1, but soon fell behind 4-2. They tied it once and that was it. The Brownies closed in a couple of time, but came up short in the end. The second set saw Agawam in the lead for most of it. But their leads were tenuous and never got bigger than four points. Once the set got to the 20s, Central seemed to have the edge. They traded points but it was Central that won 28-26, thus giving the Eagles a 2-0 lead overall. With their survival on the line, the Brownies stepped up in the third set. It was close through the first 20 points the Brownies lead was four. The outscored the Eagles 13-7 in the next 20 and won by a 35-15 score. There was still a lot of work to be done in the fourth and that was made more difficult when their top player Mike Basile went down with an ankle injury. It was tied 5-5 when he got hurt. While he was being evaluated and ultimately taped up, the hope was that Brownies could hold their own. They did more, much more and when he returned the Brownies had a 14-9 lead on their way to another 25-15 victory. More important was that the match was tied at 2-2 and the two wins by Agawam were weighing heavily on Central. This is when Central showed how truly good they were. After Agawam tied the game at 2-2, the Eagles scored six in a row for an 8-2 lead and then the teams switched sides. The Brownies made a couple of runs but got no closer than three. Central won it 15-11 and they were headed to a Western Mass final.

The Eagles opened with an ace by Giuseppe Santaniello for a 1-0 lead. A kill by Joe Hendrickson and two point on his subsequent serve gave the Brownies a 3-1 lead. Basile had the kill for that third point. That would be their high point in the first set. Central scored the next four, a kill by Joe Pasay making it 5-3. Agawam fought back and they tied it at 7-7 on back to back kills by Geoff Circosta. The Eagles got the next two points and they never saw their lead disappear. After Rivera had a couple of kills to get it to 12-8, the teams went back and forth until a kill and then a block by Stokes began a run that ended with kills by Stokes and Rivera and a 10-11 Central lead. It was here that Agawam made an impressive run. After a side out on a Basile kill, Garrett Hollander ran off six points on his serve. His ace made it 19-18. A Stokes kill ended the run. Soon after, a kill by Anthony Figueroa ended the first set at 25-21.

Stokes got Central out 2-0 in the second. Basile tied it 2-2. This set saw ties at 4-4, 5-5, 6-6 and 7-7. A kill by Alan Burlechenko got Agawam a lead at 8-7 and it crept to 13-9. Central fought back and tied it at 15-15 on a double hit. A net violation followed and Central had its first lead since 7-6. Back and forth they went. Agawam led 20-18; Central led 23-22. A Caleb Hodovanec kill gave Agawam the lead at 24-23. Central took a timeout. A couple of unforced errors put Central in the lead and it was Agawam with the timeout. Hodovanec tied it. A Stokes kill gave the Eagles the lead at 27-26 and Maickel DeJesus block gave Central the 28-26 win.

With their back against the wall, the Brownies responded. They trailed 3-1 and then again 5-4 on a Figueroa kill. They led 6-5 and then were tied; they led 7-6 and then were tied. A Basile kills gave the Brownies a 8-7 lead. That started a run of four points, ending with a kill by Basile for an 11-7 score. They kept building upon the lead, 13-8 on a Hodovanec kill; 15-9 on a Hendrickson block; 17-10 on an unforced error; 19-11 on a Basile kill; 22-13 on a Burlechenko kill. Hodovanec's kill gave them a 25-15 win.

Again it was Central with a quick lead, 3-1 while Stokes was serving. On a play of four hits, where Agawam tied it at 5-5, Basile was hurt. Figueroa had a tip for a Central point to 6-5. It was tied again at 7-7 on a Hodovanec kill and then Chris Newton served two aces. After a double hit, the Agawam lead had gotten to 11-7. A block and a kill by Hendrickson made it 14-8 and after a side out Basile returned. He made his presence felt with a kill on Hodovanec's serve and two aces later, it was 18-9. The teams traded points and Agawam won the set, 25-15.

As inspiring as Basile's effort to play was for the Brownies, it was clear, he was not himself. Agawam chose not to start him in the tie breaker. With Santaniello serving, Central scored two points, the latter on an ace. A Burlechenko kill and a non-return on a serve, tied it. Central then scored the next six points. It began with a kill by Stokes to give the serve to Gabriel Rubilar. His ace ended it with a Central ahead 8-2. The teams switched sides. Agawam got the next three points, two on kills by Hodovanec to make it 8-5. Rivera had a kill and the ball went back to Central. The Eagles, with several Rivera kills and finally a block by Figueroa, took a 12-7 lead. The Brownies got to three at 120, 13-10 and lastly 14-11. That last one came on a kill by Hodovanec. The match winner came on a kill by a DeJesus for a 15-11 final.

Coach Kevin Pender, having just completed his first year with the Brownies, was proud of his team. "They showed a lot character, toughness and skill to play the way they did. They never gave up and almost pulled it out."

Basile had 15 kills and 13 digs. Hodovanec had 16 kills. Burlechenko knocked home 12 kills. Hollander had amazing 47 assists. On the other side Stokes had 13 kills and 10 blocks, while Rivera had 13 kills. Pasay was right behind Hollander in assists with 45.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, June 17

HERITAGE WOODS SENIOR LIVING, 462 Main St., Agawam, summer concert from 6 to 8 p.m. Face painting, balloon animals and popcorn. Admission is free. Come early and bring a lawn chair or blanket. For more information, contact Nicole Wallace at 413-789-8332 or email Nicole.wallace@genesishcc.com.

GIANT INDOOR TAG AND RUMMAGE SALE today from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Holy Trinity Church Parish Hall, 331 Elm St., Westfield. Shoppers are asked to use the rear entrance from the parking lot with handicapped accessible ramp.

HARNESSING MUAY BORAN LLC, a Muay Thai martial arts studio in Feeding Hills, will host “Kick Start in Martial Arts,” a two-day expo focusing on how martial arts plays a vital role in health and wellness, at the MassMutual Center today and tomorrow. For more information, visit www.kickstartinmartialarts.com.

Saturday, June 18

ROBINSON STATE PARK DAY will include a bird identification walk, rapid stream assessments, exploring Robinson Pond, big tree walks, a forest hike and more. All are invited. Bring food, water and insect repellent. Park entrance fees apply. Severe weather cancels. For more information, visit www.friendsofrobsonstatepark.org or email robinsonfriends@comcast.net.

A CAR WASH hosted by the Friends of Jaime S. Rivera, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church, 1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. \$5 per car. Rain date is June 25. Proceeds to help fund the Benefit Car Show on July 24 at the Southwick Recreation Center.

A STRAWBERRY SUPPER at Southwick Congregational Church, 488 College Highway at 6 p.m. Cost is \$14 for adults and \$7 for children. For reservations, call 413-569-6362.

A STRAWBERRY SUPPER at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. Servings at 4:45 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets purchased in advance are \$15; \$6 for children under 12 and are available at the church office from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday and at coffee hour on Sundays. Tickets at the door are \$18.

STORROWTON VILLAGE MUSEUM opening day festivities take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include guided tours of the historic buildings with costumed interpreters teaching about daily life in the 19th century. For more information about events offered during Storrowton Village’s summer season, call the office at 413-205-5051 or visit TheBigE.com/sv.

Sunday, June 19

MARK’S BIG E AUTO EXPO takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the outdoor area on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. General admission, \$10; free for children 12 and under.

Tuesday, June 21

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL will meet at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public.

AGAWAM JUNIOR WOMEN’S CLUB meeting at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. A social hour with refreshments will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the program and business meeting at 7 p.m. The meeting will include a brown bag auction in support of Operation Underground Railroad. All are welcome.

“MUSICAL MOMENTS” free concert at 6:30 p.m. at Amelia Park Ice Arena, 21 S. Broad St. Westfield, will feature Pitoniak Brothers — easy listening. For more information, call 413-568-2503 or visit www.ameliaparkice.org.

FRIENDS OF GRANBY ELDERLY SUMMER CONCERT from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Dufresne Field in Granby, Conn. will feature the Skidmarks. Free will offering. Bring chairs, blankets and bug spray.

Wednesday, June 22

ESTATE AND FINANCIAL PROTECTION SEMINAR at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. at 12:30 p.m. Presented by Westfield Wealth Management & Insurance Group, in association with Westfield Bank. Pre-registration recommended to ensure seating. Call 413-821-0604.

Thursday, June 23

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE from 1 to 6 p.m. at Southwick Town Hall, 454 College Highway. For

more information or to make an appointment to donate blood or platelets, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present “The Artistry of Bosch: Renaissance Naturalism, Allegory, and Imagination” featuring Robert Baldwin, associate professor of art history at Connecticut College, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Friday, June 24

COMMUNITY GRANGE 382 OF FEEDING HILLS will hold a patriotic “Paint and Shop Night” at the Grange Hall, 47 N. West St., Feeding Hills, from 7 to 9 p.m. Donation is \$20 to cover the glassware, supplies and instruction by decorative artist Peg Sullivan. To make a reservation, call 413-789-2061.

THE NORTHEAST REINING HORSE SHOW today through Sunday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the Coliseum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission.

Saturday, June 25

FRIENDS OF THE SOUTHWICK RAIL TRAIL and Friends of the Columbia Greenway Fourth of July Kids Bike Ride at 10 a.m. Youngsters and families invited to participate in the ride, starting at Shaker Farms Rail Trail parking lot on Shaker Road in Westfield, heading south on the Rail Trail to Sam West Road in Southwick. Helmets required.

A FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT WORTH, Warriors of Renee Thibeault Herbert, from 6 to 10 p.m. at Fitness First, 60 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills. \$20 per person. For tickets, call Denise Morton at 413-734-4179 or Gina Marie Girouard-O’Neill at 413-237-5903. Tickets also available at the door.

Sunday, June 26

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL AND FIREHOUSE MUSEUM at 35 Elm St., will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. and will feature a special exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Eastern States Exhibition. For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com or follow on Facebook.

CONGREGATION AHAVAS ACHIM invites families an end-of-the-school-year program celebrating Jewish culture and traditions at 10:30 a.m. at the Children’s Museum at Amelia Park in Westfield. Children of all ages welcome. No charge for the program, lunch or access to the museum. Reservations needed by June 17 to plan for lunch. RSVP to ahavasachimquiry@gmail.com.

ONGOING

GRANDPARENT’S PLAYGROUP Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., at St. David’s Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. This free infant and toddler playgroup features music and movement, fostering children’s interactions and sharing skills. Open to all grandparents and their grandchildren. Follows school schedule.

MOM 2 MOM takes place the second Tuesday of every month October through June, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. A roundtable discussion hosted by a local “veteran” mom, this is a great way to have further conversation on recent café themes and parent education events, celebrate parenting and receive encouragement for the trials.

THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK COMMITTEE meets the third Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level classroom at St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main St., Agawam. For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247 or email Rosemary.Sandlin@rosemary-sandlin@gmail.com

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers “Crochet Club” every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

A BREAST CANCER AND MASTECTOMY SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

AN ALL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

A BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets the second Wednesday of each month at Heritage Woods Assisted Facility, 462 Main St., Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

Walks, talks at Robinson Park Day this month

Robinson State Park Day will be held Saturday, June 18, and will include the annual tradition of fun and educational activities sponsored by the Friends of Robinson State Park and the Department of Conservation and Recreation. All are invited to the many activities planned for that day.

- A bird identification walk will take place at 8:30 a.m., led by John Hutchison of the Allen Bird Club.

- The tree bus, a clever and educational van packed full of information about trees, will be back at the pavilion all day. Free tree books will be handed out to the first 30 visitors.

- Rod Parlee of the Bolton, Conn., Conservation Commission, will present Rapid Stream Assessments, an educational half-hour session beginning at 9 a.m. and will then guide water quality assessments in several of the park streams.

- Attendees are invited to explore Robinson Pond with “What’s in the Water” led by Gini Traub, DCR interpreter. This will be ongoing from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is especially geared to children accompanied by an adult.

- Art teacher Sharon Vasicek will offer “Make Origami Frogs” from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. demonstrated by art teacher Sharon

Vasicek,

- A forest hike led by the Wilbraham Hiking Club will begin at 9:30 a.m. and includes a two-mile hike with an additional two-mile loop.

- There will be a Westfield River Watershed Canoe Cruise from the center of Westfield to Robinson State Park. Register at the Great River Bridges in Westfield between 10 and 11 a.m.

There is an \$8 parking charge for Massachusetts cars and a \$10 charge for out-of-state cars for anyone attending Robinson State Park Day.

- Ray Weber will give a Phantom 4 drone demonstration at 2 p.m. in the field next to the Park Pavilion. The drone will display aerial views of Robinson State Park and surrounding areas on a 24 inch monitor.

- Big tree walks will be led by Matt “Twig” Largess, an arborist from Rhode Island.

- Walks by request will be available courtesy of Dave Conley, who will lead walkers wherever they want to explore, including the waterfall, the CCC camp area, to a certified vernal pool or old railroad trestles

More details of the June 18 events can be found at www.friendsofrobsonstatepark.org or by emailing robinsonfriends@comcast.net.

Lt. Gov. to speak at Chamber breakfast

The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will host its Annual Breakfast Meeting from 7 to 9 a.m. Thursday, June 23. The event will take place at Chez Josef, 176 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam. The guest speaker will be Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito. Tickets are \$35 for member, \$40 for non-members.



Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito

The WRC gives out two \$500 grants annually. The drawing will take place at the breakfast. Each member company will have an opportunity to win a grant to be used toward business advertising or education. Only WRC members are eligible to win.

For more information or to register, call 413-426-3880 or email info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

Monday, June 20: Lasagna and meatballs, garden salad, watermelon.

Tuesday, June 21: Split pea soup, ham and cheese on whole-wheat, lettuce and tomato, pudding.

Wednesday, June 22: Roast chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas and carrots, baked good.

Thursday, June 23: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, peaches.

Friday, June 24: Baked fish, rice pilaf, California blend vegetables, pineapple.

Calendar of Events

Monday, June 20: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., bingo; 3-5 p.m., senior theater group; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 6 p.m., cancer survivor group.

Tuesday, June 21: 9 a.m., exercise, Sit & Knit, sewing class; 9:30 a.m., shuffleboard meets at St.

John’s field; 10 a.m., chair exercise; 12:30 p.m., mah jongg, movie (“Daddy’s Home”), ladies billiards; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance; 6:30 p.m., evening sewing class.

Wednesday, June 22: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; noon, Golden Agers Chapter 1 picnic (no meeting); 12:30 p.m., bridge, free “Estate & Financial Protection” seminar; 1 p.m., Scrabble, ballroom lessons; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Thursday, June 23: 9 a.m., last exercise before summer pay session; 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch, open art; 2 p.m., Melody Band practice; 6:30 p.m., pitch, evening line dancing, cancer support group meets.

Friday, June 24: 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., all media art class; 10 a.m., last tai chi until September; noon, canasta; 12:45 p.m., ice cream sundae social (\$1); 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage.

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Auctions

AUCTION OF A RADIO COLLECTION June 18, 2016, 10:00 a.m. 101 Carpenter Rd., Monson, Mass. Featuring: The collection of the late Arthur Richardson of Monson, Mass. Vintage radios, tubes, TV, ephemera, testing equipment, reel to reel, speakers, hundreds of parts and more!! www.wintergardenauction.com Brings Chairs.

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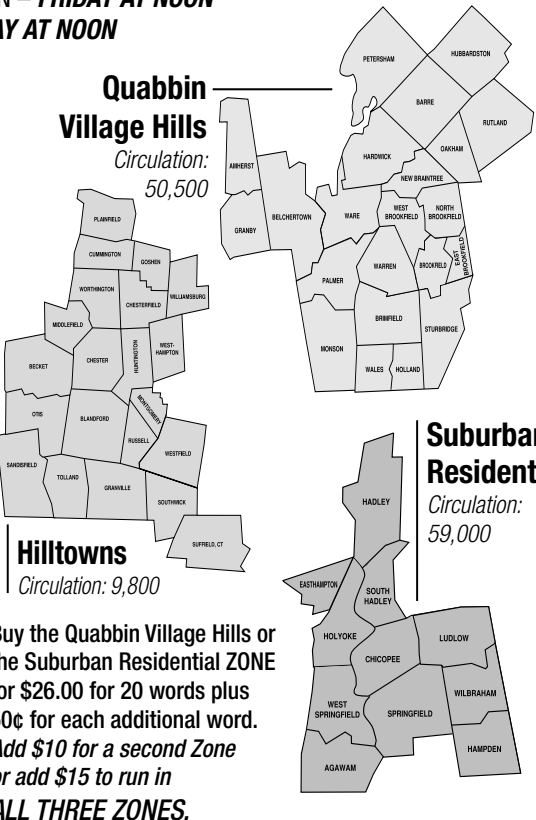
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33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
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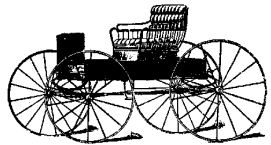
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Needed: warehouse workers on 2nd & 3rd shift! \$10.50-\$12.00/hr

Required: Drug test & recent work history & positive references!

****Please apply online before event**** For more info and to apply: www.unitedpersonnel.com Questions? Call **413-527-7445**

SPRAY PARK SUPERVISOR The Town of Agawam is currently accepting applications for 2 spray park supervisors; applicants must be 18 years old. Applications are available in the Personnel Office, 36 Main St., Agawam. Please visit our website, Agawam.ma.us for a full job description and salary.

TEACHER- FT FOR Pre-K classroom in a child care center. Must be EEC certified. Call **413-593-3942**

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Help Wanted

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM SEASONAL DPW LABORER

Looking for two hard workers to perform grass mowing, weed wacking, spreading top soil & grass seed, shoveling/raking asphalt, cleaning equipment etc. Must have a valid drivers license and be physically able to lift & carry at least 50 lbs & perform strenuous physical labor in all weather conditions for extended periods of time. \$10/hr, 12-16 weeks, no benefits. Please apply at 240 Springfield St, Wilbraham, MA 01095, application available at www.wilbraham-ma.gov. deadline 6/24/2016 at 4:30 pm EOE

VAN DRIVERS WANTED to transport seniors and people with disabilities in the greater Hampden and Hampshire county areas. Full-time, Part-time, and Split shifts available: days- nights- weekends. Must be reliable and caring, with good people skills. DOT physical, drug and CORI check required. Training is provided. To apply, bring your RMV driving record to 80 1st Ave., Chicopee, MA or call **(413)739-7436** and ask for Brenda. EOE/AA

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

HAMPDEN SINGLE BEDROOM country apt, 1st floor. Appliances included. No smoking. No pets. References. \$350 every two weeks plus utilities. Natural gas heat. Call **(413)276-5069**.

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Send writing samples with resume to:

Kristin Will, Editor

The Sun

24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069

Or email directly to kwill@turley.com

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Turley Publications, Inc. (Palmer Plant) is accepting applications for an experienced **PRESS HELPER / JOGGER**, primarily first shift, but must be flexible to float to other shifts on an as needed basis.

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Turley Publications, Inc. (Palmer Plant) is accepting applications for an entry level **MAIL ROOM/BINDERY HELPER**, primarily first shift, but must be flexible for overtime shifts on an as needed basis.

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Our Town

ENGAGEMENT



Allison Sreter and Patrick McKeever

Sreter — McKeever

Leeann and Stephen McKeever of Agawam are happy to announce the engagement of their son, Patrick Thomas McKeever, to Allison Julie Sreter of Arlington. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Albert Sreter and the late Lorinda Sreter of Moultonborough, N.H.

The future bridegroom is a 2008 graduate of Agawam High School. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in communication from Worcester State University. He is a sales manager for Republic Tobacco of Glenview, Ill.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Winchester High School. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in communication from Merrimack College. She is a marketing communications manager for Aetna Insurance Co.

A Columbus Day weekend celebration is planned at Lake Winnepesaukee. On Oct. 7, Patrick and Allison will exchange wedding vows at the Castle in the Clouds in Moultonborough. A farewell luncheon and boat cruise will take place Saturday, Oct. 8.

Ladies' luncheon



The Agawam Catholic Women's Club ended its year recently with a banquet at Crestview Country Club in Agawam. Paula Raiche, right, chairman of the event, is shown with the Rev. Brian McGrath of St. John the Evangelist Church, and Geraldine Schilling-Nordal, club member. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Elaine Taupier and Rose Berry socialize at the Agawam Catholic Women's Club banquet.



From left, Petty Cormier, Adele Gallano and Mary Zajac.



Judith Shrader, left, and Cookie Albro.



From left, Eileen Kane, Jane McCarthy, Miriam Taupier and Elaine Bowler.

Celebrity signing



Actress Marlee Matlin, seated, signs autographs at Bay Path University's Annual Women's Leadership Conference held in April at the MassMutual Center in Springfield. Among those in attendance was Agawam resident and retired Agawam High School art teacher Geraldine Schilling-Nordal, standing at right next to Matlin's sign language interpreter, Jack Jason. SUBMITTED PHOTO

NOTICE

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